

St. Philip's Lutheran Church
Council Meeting: June 21, 2021

Call to Order: 6:01 PM by David Weisser, Council President

Attending: David Weisser, Deborah Dreher, Cindy Toppin, Bruce Arndtson, Marge Peterson, and Pastor Geier

Absent: Katy Lindberg, Sadie Reiners and Abby Schultz

Opening Devotions: Pastor Geier:

With today's Memorial Service of Joyce Wolverton, it was wonderful to again see the Church alive with people, fellowship, and the Spirit working!

Secretary's Report: Deborah Dreher (acting)

May 2021 Secretary Minutes (prepared by Katy Lindberg) were approved. Motion to approve by Bruce, with Second by Deborah.

Treasurer's Report: Deborah Dreher

SPLC continues to be in good financial position. Giving for General, Misc, & Capital exceed Budget by 1.6%, Salary & Benefits are 3% under Budget; and Operational Expenses are 21% under Budget

The Finance Ministry Team (FMT) reviewed and unanimously approved refinancing our current Building Loan. We are seeking approval from Council. Details below:

Merchants Bank recently introduced a package to lend funds with a 10 year fixed rate. The rate offered is 3.79%. An origination fee of ½% and an appraisal fee would apply. A prepayment penalty of 4% for the first 5 years and 2% for the next 5 years would apply if we refinanced the loan with another financial institution. Our current loan matures October 1, 2023.

Motion to approve by Bruce, with Second by Cindy. Council voted unanimously to approve FMT request to re-finance current building loan with Merchants Bank.

Vice President: Sadie Reiners

- The Building & Grounds (B&G) Ministry Team is now 9 members strong. Glenda assumed the role of convener and coordinator of tasks for this group of Christ's servants to His church.
- Team members include Steve Wolverton, Bill Pavlish, Al Todnem, Bruce Arndtson, Dan Strehlow, Dave Tank, Wayne Fahlstrom, Paul Swanstrom, and Glenda Schnirring.
- Bill Pavlish gave an overall seasonal review.

- Bill distributed a list of SPLC vendors.
- Action items taken for the immediate time were:
 - Four flowering crab trees that failed on the east lawn were removed by Dave Tank and Dan Strehlow.
 - Wayne and Paul will decide whether to seal the wide crack in the parking lot by the handicapped area now or wait until it is colder.
- There is a need to return to weeding. The Juniper along the east sidewalk should be weeded by volunteers and mulched by Precision or some other vendor. Also, the corner by the east exit door of the sanctuary should be weeded and mulched. The last area of urgency is along the church where the columbarium will be positioned. The corner sign will be completed once the next small area of sod has been done. (When cable and gas lines have ceased being installed.)

Serving Ministries: Open Position (report filed by Glenda Schnirring)

Fellowship Ministry Team:

Discussion pursued regarding coffee on Sunday mornings at the Welcome Center. Council unanimously voted to assign the coffee responsibilities to the Fellowship Ministry Team.

Relating to Serving Ministries Council Position recruitment, both David and Cindy brought forward several members to contact. David will be responsible to calling those members.

The Red Cross Bloodmobile will be at SPLC on Thursday, August 26 from Noon to 6 PM. Katy placed info in July Newsletter. In addition, she had a few people volunteer to help, but nothing formalized yet to ask for volunteers.

Stewardship Ministry Team: did not meet.

David will check SPLC Constitution with regard to Community Ministries Team.

HR Ministry Team: Cindy Toppin

Pastor Geier is in the process of completing staff Performance Reviews. Forms and procedures for Pastor Review sent to Council President, David Weisser. Pastor review is completed by the Executive Committee.

Advertising for position of Second Service Worship Leader has begun.

Learning Ministries: Abby Schultz

Faith Formation

Bubble & Slime Party recap

- 3 kids and a parent came, so it was small but still incredibly fun
- Trying to do more publicity for silly Olympics

VBS

Recruiting volunteers

- Only 7 adult volunteers
- Post on Instagram to recruit high schoolers and confirmation students

Post-VBS celebration

- Outdoor picnic
- Sing songs the following Sunday (July 25)

Generic volunteer t-shirts

- Will make it easier to find volunteers
- Surplus will be able to be given out next year
- “Vacation Bible School Volunteer” on front
- “St. Philip’s Lutheran Church” on back

Outdoor hand washing station (ask Steve Wolverton)

Rally Sunday service project

Just to put on our radar for now- collecting school supplies for Lutheran World Relief

Pastor will discuss with Sarah the time for Sunday School, including the need to poll parents.

Adult Spiritual Growth: no report

Preschool: no report

Worship & Music: Marge Peterson

Summer worship schedule will not include outdoor worship. W/M Ministry Team will consider for summer 2022.

Council voted to continue one worship service per Sunday through the end of 2021. During October 2021, they will review and determine whether it will continue into 2022.

Communication, Marketing & Technology: Bruce Arndtson

CMT continues to pursue option of livestreaming. Jay Raimann will visit Iowa church that does this. Hopefully, a decision is made by end of 2021.

Pastor’s Report:

- At the synod assembly, “Planting Hope”, a synod-wide campaign was introduced with a three-year goal of \$2,750,000. The four foci of the are to invite neighbors into life in Christ, renew congregations of the synod, raise up the next generations of leaders, and invest in a transformative project on the East side of St. Paul with other community partners. Next month I will share an 8-minute video from the synod to share more about this opportunity.
- We are suspending our Zoom Holy Communion Services and delivery of CDs of worship. Those that were participating in those services have been returning to in-person worship. We will resume as the need arises.
- Three people attended the first campfire Bible study on Hagar. For the next studies, I will announce that if it is above 80 degrees we will meet inside.
- We have moved our weekly Staff Ministry Team meetings to Mondays at 11:00 unless there is a funeral or holiday etc.

- I have been working with John Diischer to see the steps needed to livestream our worship services.
- We also saw a demonstration of a laser projector to compare to the bulb projectors we are currently using. I am having John draft a proposal for the Worship Ministry Team to plan to upgrade 3-4 years from now. Finance should discuss 3 year budget.
- We are starting to schedule more memorial services and baptisms that were delayed due the pandemic.
- Discussion regarding Announcements during Worship. An option discussed was Prayer concerns and updates at the beginning of Worship, and other announcements, including those other than Pastor, will be at the end of the Service.

Old Business:

Recruitment: Serving Ministries Council Representative: David and Cindy brought forward several members to contact. David will be responsible to calling those members.

New Business:

None

Motion to Adjourn: at 7:01 PM. Motion by Cindy and second by Deborah. Motion passed.

Respectively submitted,

Deborah M. Dreher
Acting Council Secretary
6/23/2021